

Issue 24 Number 9

Pastor Mark's Minute:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

Here is a suggestion...get yourself a 'God Box.'

Through prayer and the power of God, we are to take every thought captive. Let me give you a practical way of doing it.

Get a box, it doesn't have to be big or fancy. A shoe box would be perfect. Write 'God' on the outside of the box. Every time you have a worry, burden, temptation, stress or an out-of-control negative thought, write it down on a piece of paper.

You might write something like:

I'm afraid of getting fired. My teenager is out of control. I want to get on my

phone/ipad/computer and go to web-sites and/or social media I know I shouldn't.

I can't pay all my bills. What's going to happen with my mother/father? I want to have a smoke so bad. I'm never going to change. I'm angry with my spouse.

Write them down and put them in your God box. When you do, pray, 'God, I'm trusting you with this. I know you are in control. I know you are bigger than this. This is not a thought I want to think, so right now, I'm giving it to you.

Once you pray, and put your problem in God's box, go on with your life. From that point on, if you decide you want to worry about whatever it was, go to the box, take it out, and tell God, 'I don't trust you with this. I am going to take it back from you.'

When you read that last sentence, you probably thought, I could never say that to God, but every time we worry, we panic, we stress, that is exactly what we are saying to God. That is not how we want to live, that is not how we have to live.

The Apostle Paul tells us, 'The Lord is near.' So, we need to practice being in God's presence, so we will be persistent in prayer. Peter told us we can cast all our cares on God, because He cares for us. Our thoughts will sometimes betray us, but we know: If it's big enough to worry about, it's big enough to pray about. If it's on your mind, it's on God's heart. (adapted)

"Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:16

I love you! It'll be great to see you Sunday!

"Satan's strategy is simple...make sin look normal and make righteousness seem strange. Do not be deceived. Every single one of us are being transformed either into the image of Jesus or into the image of this world." - Candy Leist

How might we pray for you?

Text requests to: Pastor Mark @ (785) 527-3510 or e-mail them to: www.markwesley@nckcn

THERE IS POWER IN PRAYER

"John Knox prayed, and the results caused Queen Mary to say that she feared the prayers of John Knox more than she feared all the armies of Scotland.

John Wesley prayed, and revival came to England, sparing that nation the horrors of the French Revolution.

Jonathan Edwards prayed, and revival spread throughout the American colonies. History has been changed time after time because of prayer. I tell you, history could be changed again if people went to their knees in believing prayer. Even when times are bleak and the world scorns God, He still works through the prayers of His people."

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES If we do not have your special day in our records, or that of your loved one, please contact Pastor Mark ASAP with that information @ (785) 527-3510. Thank you!

The Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

'Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." Stress makes you believe that everything has to happen now. Faith reassures you that everything will happen in God's timing. "For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways." Psalm 91:11

Communion Sunday will be March 31st during our Easter service.

Republic County Church Women – Join us!

Friday, March 1st @ 9:30am @ United Methodist Church - Belleville, KS

Republic County High School students, Joell Alexander and Gracia Siemsen, will share about their senior projects. Gracia has been and will continue to be involved with projects helping children in need. Joell will be helping with an annual Christmas dinner and commodities distribution.

We will be collecting items for the Food Bank. Any non-perishable food items or household necessities are welcome.

An offering will go to the After School Programs in Belleville and Courtland.



Daylight Savings

Turn your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night, March 9th.

Meals-on-Wheels

We will deliver Meals-on-Wheels the week of March 25th – 29th.

Please sign up in the foyer.



Pot Luck Meal

Our Saint Patrick's Day Pot Luck Meal will be on Sunday, March 17th after church. Join us and bring your favorite corned beef and cabbage or Irish bread to share. If you are not Irish, bring your favorite meal or dessert. Yummy!

Our Community Good Friday Service will be on Friday, March 29th @

The First Baptist Church @ 12:05pm.

SAY, 'CHEESE!'

We are making a new church pictorial directory and want YOU to be included. It will not be complete without you!

Okay, the window for signing up for pictures closed February 25th. If you signed up to have your picture taken at church, please remember to be here at least 10 minutes before your appointment on Tuesday the 5th or Wednesday the 6th. If you have not signed up, you are important to us and we would like you included in our church directory. Please provide a current picture, \$20.00 and your address, phone number, email and a list of all family members who are in the picture, to the church office, on or before Sunday, March 10th. We will then do all we can to work with the directory company to get your picture included.

AWANA

Awana meets each Wednesday from 6:00-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Kids from 5 year-olds to 6th grade are invited to join us. We play games, have snacks, learn Bible stories and memorize Bible verses.

YOUTH GROUP

The High School BLUE GROUP (10th-12th) meets each Sunday @ 7:00pm.
The Junior High RED GROUP (7th-9th) meets each Wednesday night @ 6:00pm.
<u>Upcoming Events</u>:
1. Winter Jam Christian Concert in Wichita is March 3rd. Leave @ 12:30pm. Tickets are \$15.00 each. Bring enough money for your ticket and one meal.
2. The Youth Group will be watching <u>The Passion of the Christ movie</u> on Good Friday, March 29th @ 7:00pm @ BWC.
3. Youth Sunday will be April 28th.

After church the Youth will be serving a pasta all you can eat meal with a free will donation.

4. Youth Camp @ Lakeview Christian Camp is set for June $2^{nd} - 7^{th}$.

Congratulations to *Owen Weatherhead* for qualifying for the State Wrestling Tournament!

A Bedtime Prayer:

"Dear God, I come before you tonight with a grateful heart. Thank you for the blessings of this day and for the love and guidance you provide in every step of my journey. I surrender all my worries, burdens, and concerns into your loving hands. Please grant me restful sleep, restore my strength and joy and protect me from harm. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Just for fun - Real Church Bloopers:

This morning's sermon: 'Jesus Walks on Water.' Tonight's sermon: 'Searching for Jesus.'



909 Wesleyan Drive

Belleville, KS 66935